

## THE FEMALE OF *PSILOPSOCUS PULCHRIPENNIS* SMITHERS AND THORNTON (PSOCOPTERA: PSILOPSOCIDAE)

By C. N. Smithers

The Australian Museum, 6-8 College Street, Sydney

### Introduction

Smithers and Thornton (1973) reviewed the species of *Psilopsocus* Enderlein of New Guinea and gave a key to the five known species of the genus. As male material only of *Psilopsocus pulchripennis* Smithers and Thornton was available the female could not be described. A female which corresponds in general features with the male and which is almost certainly that of *Ps. pulchripennis* has now been found amongst material on loan from the Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu. This is described here.

### *Psilopsocus pulchripennis* Smithers and Thornton

#### DESCRIPTION OF FEMALE

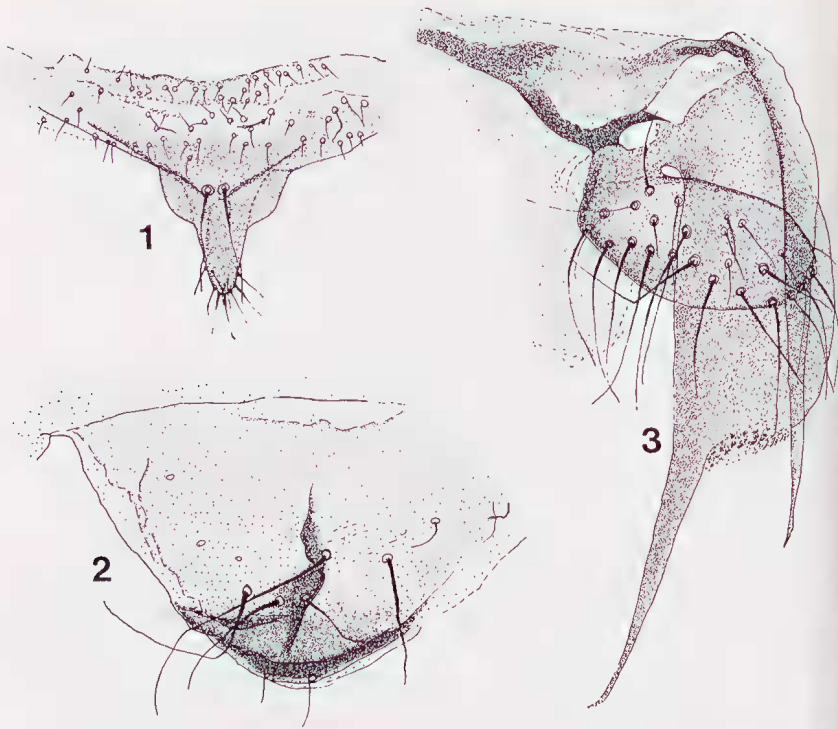
*Coloration* (in alcohol). As in male, the pigmented areas are little more extensive but the pattern the same.

*Morphology*. Length of body: 3.4 mm. Median epicranial suture distinct but fine. Lengths of flagellar segments:  $f_1$  : 0.96 mm;  $f_2$  : 1.00 mm. Pubescence of flagellar segments fine. Eyes fairly large but not reaching level of vertex. Ocelli small. Apex of lacinia divided into the usual small internal cusp and broader external cusp, the latter divided into about six sharply pointed teeth, the inner smaller than the outer; apices of left and right lacinia differ in detail of tooth arrangement. Hind femur fairly short. Hind tibia with row of ctenidiobothria along ventral surface as well as less well developed ctenidia generally distributed over surface. Fore and middle tibiae similarly bearing ctenidiobothria but without strongly developed ventral row. Measurements of hind leg: F: 0.72 mm; T: 1.40 mm;  $t_1$  : 0.49 mm;  $t_2$  : 0.084 mm;  $t_3$  : 0.14 mm; rt: 6.0: 1: 1.65; ct: 17, 1, 1. Fore wing length: 5.0 mm; width: 1.6 mm. Venation and wing form as in male. Epiproct (Fig. 2). Subgenital plate (Fig. 1). Gonapophyses (Fig. 3).

MATERIAL EXAMINED. NEW GUINEA: 1 ♀, Bulldog Rd., about 14 km south of Edie Creek, 2405 m, 4.vii.1966 (G. A. Samuelson).

### Discussion

The female of *Psilopsocus pulchripennis* will run out in the key provided by Smithers and Thornton (1973, p. 103). It differs from that of *Ps. nigricornis* Enderlein in wing pattern and form of the gonapophyses. In *Ps. nigricornis* the dorsal valve tapers gradually to its recurved point whereas in *Ps. pulchripennis* it narrows abruptly about half way along its length and then tapers to a fine point as in *Ps. marmoratus* Smithers and Thornton. It differs



Figs 1-3. *Psilopsocus pulchripennis* SM. and Th. ♀: (1) subgenital plate; (2) epiproct; (3) gonapophyses.

from that species in lacking the small median seta on the posterior lobe of the subgenital plate and the sclerified bars associated with the entrance to the spermatheca are longer.

#### Acknowledgements

I would like to thank Dr J. L. Gressitt for the loan of Psocoptera material, the Australian Research Grants Committee for financial support for work on the Psocoptera and Mr M. Robinson for preparing the illustrations to this note.

#### Reference

- Smithers, C. N. and Thornton, I. W. B., 1973. The Psilopsocidae (Psocoptera) of New Guinea. *Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W.* 98(2): 98-103, 13 figs.